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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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ENGLISH

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A REGIONAL PROJECT OF THE ARAB STATES AND EUROPE

IPF:(1987-91) $52 849 000

(RAB/90/024) - CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT FOR THE ARAB STATES AND EUROPE (CEDARE)

Date of approval by the AC:[1/]	29 May 1991
Expected duration:	Five years
Proposed executing agency:	Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development
Government implementing agency:	CEDARE
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$ 5 500 000 Source of funds: IPF
Third-party cost sharing:	$ 5 500 000
Total UNDP budget:	$11 000 000

Project background

As a result of the growing recognition by both the Governments of the Arab States and Europe Region and the donor community, of the need to integrate environmental considerations into planning and implementation phases of socio-economic development, the number of country and regional projects focussing on environmental management has been increasing rapidly. In addition, The Governing Council of UNDP has requested that environmental management be one of the six themes for UNDP's technical assistance programmes. Hence, the idea of establishing CEDARE to act as the centre-piece of regional, national, UNDP's and other donors' initiatives in the field of environmentally sound sustainable development constituted a logical step. The concept has matured through a number of technical meetings and in full consultation with the Governments and key donor organizations, culminating in a unanimous endorsement by the Governments at the Mid-term Review Meeting of the Regional Programme for Arab States in October 1990.

[1/] This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.

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Description of project

The Centre will cultivate strong linkages among national, regional and international institutions of environment and development, and once fully operational, it will provide policy and operational advice, technical assistance and fund mobilization services in order to promote environmentally sound sustainable development in the Mediterranean and the Arab region.

The project will seek to: (a) strengthen the institutional mechanisms for regional co-operation; (b) promote the development and transfer of environmentally sound technologies; (c) strive to change perceptions, attitudes and approaches to socio-economic development towards equity and sustainability; (d) promote concessionality, incentives and preferential treatment so that planning, investment and implementation phases of development efforts conform closely with the Environmental Management and Sustainable Development Guidelines; (e) identify and assist in dismantling the barriers causing under-utilization of environmentally-sound technologies; (f) store, access, process, analyze and integrate data on environment, natural resources and socio-economy of the region and disseminate the results through its network; (g) provide advice on environmental legislation and mediate to resolve disputes over the use and protection of shared resources; (h) facilitate disaster preparedness through issuance of early warning of impending ecological calamities; (i) furnish technical assistance to the networked organizations; and (j) facilitate funding to projects of regional and sub-regional importance.

Inputs

UNDP will provide a director of the Centre (60 work-months); a deputy director (60 work-months) and head of Technical Department; programme leaders (60 work-months) for the Departments of Freshwater Resources Management, Land Resource Development, Marine and Coastal Resources Management, Urbanization and Human Settlements, and Industrialization; chiefs of technical units (60 work-months) on data bank operations, remote sensing, early warning, computer networking, and outreach programmes; sub-contracting research services to regional entities; training both at CEDARE's premises and within the region; equipment for technical services of CEDARE and to strengthen the key components of CEDARE's regional network.

Financial data

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Personnel	6 450 000
Subcontract	450 000
Training	2 600 000
Equipment	1 250 000
Miscellaneous	250 000
Total	11 000 000

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